

MRS. HALL DEMANDS TO BE PUT ON STAND

Will Waive Immunity to
Get Chance to Go Before
Grand Jury.

HER MAID IS DEFIANT

Barbara Tough Says No One
Will Force Her to Give
Any Testimony.

WITNESS LIST IS LARGE

Mott Will Work Hard This
Week to Get More Definite
Line on Tragedy.

Special Dispatch to THE NEW YORK HERALD.
NEW BRUNSWICK, N. J., Nov. 4.—Mrs. Frances Stevens Hall, when the Grand Jury of Somerset county is called at Somerville to consider the Hall-Mills murder case, will demand the right of being heard and will be ready to sign a waiver of immunity. It was ascertained to-day. In seeking to tell her story to the Grand Jury Mrs. Hall will follow the new policy adopted after Timothy N. Pfeiffer entered the case as her attorney.

If she were to appear she would be the star witness against Mrs. Jane Gibson, the woman farmer, who says she saw Mrs. Hall at the Phillips farm on the night of the murder, September 14. She will tell, in substance, the same story she told last Wednesday at the interview with newspaper reporters and representatives.

While Mrs. Hall may desire to tell her story she will probably not get a chance. Under the laws of New Jersey she cannot demand the right to appear before a Grand Jury and there is no such thing as a waiver of immunity in such a case.

The Grand Jury may call a prospective defendant on its own initiative, but the practice is for prosecutors to oppose their appearance. That there would be opposition in this case is beyond question. So while Mrs. Hall's counsel may wish her to appear it is highly improbable that she will get the chance.

Wilbur A. Mott, Special Deputy Attorney-General in charge of the case, let it be known in Newark to-day that he expected to confer shortly with the foreman of the Grand Jury, but it was learned later that he did not say that this conference would occur next Thursday, as was stated. It is expected, however, the conference will take place about the middle of next week, and there is some question as to whether the Grand Jury will meet immediately thereafter. It may be that the Grand Jury will not convene until a week from Monday, for Mott and his assistants have said time after time that they will not be hurried. The bodies were found seven weeks ago last Thursday.

Change Grand Jury Plan.
There has been a slight change in plans regarding the Grand Jury presentation. Instead of a few witnesses only being examined, virtually every one who knows anything about the case is to be called by Mr. Mott. There has been some question, too, as to whether Henry Stevens, Mrs. Hall's brother, who lives at Lavallette, should be called. Mr. Mott has been devoting a good deal of attention in the last few days to the libel Henry Stevens has set up. It is improbable that William Stevens will be asked to waive immunity.

One of the principal witnesses is likely to be Barbara Tough, the maid in the Hall home, who was also a member of the church guild and as such had an opportunity to observe the friendship between Hall and Mrs. Mills. Strangely enough, Barbara to-day made it clear that she does not wish appearing as a witness before the Grand Jury or any other body of the sort, for to an interviewer she said:

"I won't testify before any Grand Jury. I won't testify either for or against Mrs. Hall, even if I have to go to jail. People over here don't understand the blood of a Highlander."

Maid Was Near Murder Farm.

This was vehemently uttered in the crisp burr of the Scots woman's speech. She also gave an account of how she spent the afternoon and night of September 14 and admitted that she had been close to the old farm during the afternoon and part of the evening.

On the Thursday afternoon Barbara was on duty and she decided to visit her friend, Mrs. Elizabeth Anthony, who lives at 195 Easton avenue. She went to Mrs. Anthony's home early in the afternoon soon after 2:30 and they both walked out to the Phillips farm. The Agent to visit a friend of theirs, Mrs. Margaret Thompson, who has been an inmate of the home for more than a year and is an invalid.

They had both met Mrs. Thompson while engaged in doing church work. The two women remained with Mrs. Thompson until about 5:30, when they left to go to the Anthony home to have dinner. After they reached the Anthony house they waited awhile for Roy Anthony, Mrs. Anthony's husband, to come home as he came from work. When he did not arrive about 6:30 they decided to have dinner without him. After dinner Archie Cooper of 159 Bayard street, who has been very attentive to Barbara, came for her in his Ford coupe and they suggested they go for Anthony.

This they did, Barbara and Cooper being in the coupe, and the entire party stayed at the Anthony home until about 8 o'clock. Then Barbara and Cooper left and drove into New Brunswick and stopped their car in front of the home of James Nelson on Grove street and sat talking. Barbara telling Cooper of having received news from Aberdeen, Scotland. As they were sitting there talking, Barbara says, the clock in a nearby church struck 10 o'clock and she told Cooper she must go home, which she did. She went to bed at approximately 10:30.

She did not see anyone when she arrived at the Hall home and went right to her room. She says that she did not hear anyone go out during the night and that she knew nothing about the disappearance until the following day. That she says, is all she knows about Sept. 14 and then she reiterated her state-

ment that she would not testify before the Grand Jury or anyone else.

The statements of Barbara are particularly interesting in view of the fact that it has come to the ears of Mr. Mott that Hall knew for some time previous to his death that he was being watched. He believed he was being followed on his visits to the old Phillips farm and the neighborhood of Easton avenue, for several reputable persons have stated that they had seen the rector on many occasions and that he got off the Easton avenue trolley car at Galden street, several blocks before the end of the line, and that he would cut across the fields toward the general direction of the farm rather than walk along Easton avenue to the place at which the trysts were formerly kept at an old bench in the shrubbery there.

Hall Careful in Trysts.

On these visits Hall would stop after getting in the car and carefully look about before walking down Galden street preparatory to cutting across the fields toward the farm. He invariably alighted at the street or Easton avenue was fairly clear of traffic or pedestrians and then slipped across the fields to where he was meeting Mrs. Mills. This information again leads to the belief that the couple may have been using the Phillips farm as their "love nest" and that they met inside the old house on more than one occasion.

Mrs. Hall positively said that she had never been to the old farm nor through the lane and that she was not in the habit of going out Easton avenue way, toward the end of the car line or beyond.

Mrs. Gibson, though, said that she knew Mrs. Hall had been there more than once other than on the night when Mrs. Gibson asserts she was at the scene of the murder of Hall and Mrs. Mills.

Now the new informants who told of Hall's habit of cutting across the fields stated most positively that they had seen Mrs. Hall driving in the Ruxey lane and along Easton avenue more than once. They knew her well, and right and said also that she was in the habit of driving her sedan and that especially during the warmer months she wore no hat while driving.

That Hall was not in the peaceful state of mind attributed to him on the day of his death is further shown by statements made by persons who attended the meeting of the parents-teachers association of Gerdines Corners on the afternoon of September 14, when Hall delivered an address. Some of those people recalled to-day that all during the short talk by the rector he appeared considerably ill at ease and most anxious to get away to what he termed "a most important engagement."

Last Address by Rector.

The meeting was held in the Parsons School and was the regular monthly meeting of the association. It marked also the last public speech or appearance made by the rector, as he was slain that night. His talk was chiefly about the good work done by the late James Parsons, whom the school is named, and he told of many incidents in his friendship with Mr. Parsons when the latter had done many good works for the poor and for the church.

Hall was obtained as an emergency speaker, as the speaker scheduled for the meeting disappointed the people and one woman suggested that Hall be invited. He accepted the challenge as the meeting. He arrived at the Parsons School about 3 o'clock and left soon after 4. He persistently refused every invitation made to him to remain and make a speech after his talk or to join in the usual social gathering at the end of the regular meeting. He repeated that he had a most important engagement that he must fill. He kept looking at his watch and finally left, going away in his own automobile.

The uneasiness exhibited by Hall during the meeting was noticed by many of those present among the thirty or so members of the association. During his talk he appeared, as one woman put it to-day, "entirely away from his audience, and merely talking mechanically." Several persons even commented on his action after he had left.

There was some talk to-night to the effect that Mrs. A. C. Fraley, whose home is close to the auto-crashable tree, was really the new eye witness that the authorities have found. There is probably no truth in this, for the understanding is that Mr. Mott and his assistants found Mrs. Fraley quite insistent that she knew nothing and it is believed they got nothing worth while from her. That she knows more than she is telling is believed true. It is equally true of "Sisgerty," the grave digger who lives at the Fraley house. Both these persons will be questioned again by Mott at his secret examination place.

Mrs. Jane Gibson stated to-day that she had gone to Brooklyn yesterday, and had not been to Newark to confer with Mott as was first reported, due to the fact that she left New Brunswick on the same train as Detective Mason. She stated that she had been to visit her mother who lives in Brooklyn, and that she had returned here on a late train reaching home some time after midnight.

Mrs. Gibson Tells of Trick.

Mrs. Gibson admitted that she had consulted with an attorney while in Brooklyn—a judge, she called him—and that she was ready to go on the witness stand and tell the story of what she saw. She added:

"The story that I told to the Prosecutors is entirely different from what I have been telling you newspaper men. There are going to be some big surprises when I take the stand and tell all I know and all I told to the Prosecutors."

She admitted that she had, so to speak, "thrown dust into the eyes" of the reporters. Investigators announced that they were receiving scores of freak letters. One offered an algebraic solution. Design-

nating principals as A. R. C. D. and so on and the slayer as X, the writer forwarded six pages of equations which left the investigators still in doubt as to the identity of X.

Dream solutions are arriving by the dozen. One Evangelist submitted the result of a supposedly divine communication.

The letters accuse a dozen different persons of the crime.

More Jimmie Mills Pessimism.

"Jimmie" Mills contributed his "pessimistic thought for the day" in another interview to-day. This was: "It wasn't a crab apple tree, anyway; it was a wild apple tree."

In this, as in many other things, Jimmie was wrong. The tree, even the roots of which have now been dug up for souvenirs was an ordinary apple tree, one of half a dozen left of the old Phillips orchard.

To-day Mills answered, "Gee, I don't know what to think, to most of the questions put to him, and when he waivered his belief in his wife and the rector and his attention had been called for the thousandth time to the letters that passed between the two, he opined: "Well, paper will take a lot of ink." Speaking generally and largely Jimmie said: "Say, I don't know any more about this case than that wall." In that, from all appearances, Jimmie was right.

MOTT ASKS: WHAT'S USE OF JOHN DOE WARRANTS

Assistant State's Attorney Mott, special Prosecutor in the Hall-Mills murder inquiry at New Brunswick, N. J., held a conference in Newark yesterday with William S. Gummere, Chief Justice of New Jersey. The special Prosecutor admitted that the purpose of his proposed visit to Somerset county Thursday is to confer with the foreman of the Grand Jury. In reply to a question as to whether he had any definite plan to present to the Grand Jury he replied that all material has been put into shape for the Grand Jury's investigation.

When asked if "John Doe" warrants would be issued, Mr. Mott made this significant reply: "What is the use of a 'John Doe' warrant?"

MOTT ASSIGNS GUARD TO CHARLOTTE MILLS

Daughter of Slain Singer
Goes to Paterson on Visit.

Charlotte Mills has left New Brunswick and is staying for a few days with her aunt, Mrs. Frank Barnhardt, of Paterson. It is believed that an attempt is being made by Deputy Attorney-General Mott to keep her out of the way of interviewers pending the bringing of the case to trial.

Charlotte was seen leaving the Barnhardt home yesterday at noon in company with a man, who, it is said, is a member of Mr. Mott's forces. Frank Barnhardt, her uncle, admitted that the Attorney-General had deputized a detective to protect the girl from being "bested" by newspaper men.

SING SING PRISONER GETS TRIP TO SWEDEN

Takes Long Free Ride as an
Undesirable.

Holger Landin, who completed his sentence at Sing Sing yesterday, is to receive the longest free ride that a prisoner there ever got. The State provided a railroad ticket to Grand Central Terminal, and the steamship that brought Landin to America a few years ago will have to take him back to Sweden as an undesirable alien.

Landin was imprisoned a year ago for a sentence of eighteen months from a sentence of eighteen months from Judge Frank L. Young. The sentence was reduced by good behavior.

FOUR STATES INQUIRE INTO BROKER'S DEALS

Hall & Co., Bankrupt, Under
District Attorneys' Notice.

District Attorneys in New York county, Mercer county, N. J., and in Massachusetts and New Hampshire counties are investigating the business transactions and methods formerly employed by Hall & Co., bankrupt stock brokers, formerly of 50 Broadway street. That was disclosed yesterday at a hearing upon reclamation claims before Harold P. Coffin, referee.

William Keith, an attorney of Trenton, said that about twenty-five customers of the firm's Trenton branch have claims totaling \$45,000. The District Attorney of New York county, he had advised him that criminal complaints of transactions going through the Trenton branch should be taken up there, and accordingly, he has laid the matter before Dayton A. Oliphant, Prosecutor of Mercer county.

Francis M. Fallon, representing creditors living in western Massachusetts, notified the referee he had given his clients the option of pressing declarations or participating in criminal actions being sought in New York and Massachusetts. Henry W. Sykes, attorney in the trustee, consented to the withdrawal of reclamation claims.

JUDGE THOMAS OUT \$8,000; BROKER GONE

Note Signed 'C. S. Field-
steel' Says He Plans Sui-
cide in His Shame.

MOTHER 'ALSO A VICTIM'

Connecticut Jurist and Wife
File Complaints Here Fol-
lowing Disappearance.

Charles S. Fieldsteel, head of Addison, Proctor & Co., brokers, of 45 Cedar street, was charged yesterday in a complaint signed by Federal Judge Edwin S. Thomas of Connecticut with having diverted to improper uses \$8,000 which Mrs. Thomas gave to Fieldsteel to invest in petroleum and oil stocks.

Attorneys for Judge Thomas have

turned over to the office of the United States Attorney a rambling and tearful letter said to have been written by Fieldsteel. The letter, dated Wednesday morning, said Fieldsteel had stolen from his friends and members of his own family, expecting to make good, and that he was broke.

He said he was going to disappear for a time, to snatch just a few more days of life, and then kill himself because he could not take the chance of a jail sentence.

Whether Fieldsteel has killed himself or whether he really intends to kill himself the Federal authorities have no way of knowing, but he has not been seen since Wednesday. He has a wife and a young baby with whom he has been living in a newly furnished apartment at 920 Riverside Drive. In his letter he said his wife, whose first name is Helen, was ignorant of his wrongdoing.

Two subpoenas were issued yesterday after Judge Thomas's complaint was made requesting Fieldsteel and his secretary, Sam Osterwell, to appear in court to-morrow. It was to his secretary that Fieldsteel wrote the letter telling of his losses in speculation. Osterwell lives at 854 West 181st street. He and the attorneys for Judge Thomas turned the letter over to Maxwell S. Matuck, Assistant United States Attorney.

The letter begins "My Dear Sam" and says: "No doubt this misadventure will be a ter-

rrible shock to you, but before I pass out I have to open my heart. I have committed a terrible crime, the kind that one has to pay the penalty for, and as I know what is in front of me I would rather end it all, as I have firmly made up my mind to do.

"Early in the year, if you will remember, the Ames deal looked like a real deal and to be closed immediately. On account of it I rented an apartment and bought some furniture, figuring on getting some real good money soon. I first borrowed some money at the office without your knowing it and made a first payment on my home, expecting something to take place real soon so that I could replace it.

"Then the deal with Ames fell through and they threatened to clean out my house if I didn't pay. My little baby was about to be born—and not a place to turn for a \$5 bill! I finally invented a story with the Judge and Mrs. Thomas about getting a tip from a big bank on General Asphalt and Mexican Pete. Then they started buying from me, first 100 Asphalt and fifty Mexican Pete at 183½, and fifty Mexican Pete at 188.

"There is no need of my telling you what Mexican Pete is—with the result that I sold his stock at 227½, with the result that I have been called upon to make good. I haven't a dollar that I could call my own to make good—I am in bad to the extent of \$10,000. Now you will wonder where all the money went to. I did not have an account for Paul. It was the Thomas money. I speculated long before you

found out and it cost me close to \$4,000, which I lost without you knowing it. The balance I paid for the confinement of my baby, which cost me \$600. The balance I paid for my home. Oh, how I wanted a home! Like everybody else. But Sam, I went into it with good intentions, not knowing what the terrible outcome would be.

"The worst of it all is that Helen, who is ignorant of it always told me 'Charlie, you can't afford it; let us stay where we are.' It's all over now, Sam, and I can't stand the disgrace, or rather face it, as I know what is in store for me. So Sam, protect yourself so that you can remain where you are in order to make a living for yourself and family. Just forget me, as it is a matter of hours now when everybody will know my story, but at least I won't be here any more.

"I am signing some blank letter heads which you can write my confession to Judge and Mrs. Thomas. Say anything about me. Just the truth that I stole from her, from you, my mother, wife and sister, everybody, and gambled and lost. Not having the courage to face it I am ready to end it all. I have figured it out very closely and I am strong enough for it at last. I have gathered up enough to pay the balance of the Ames deal.

"I left you with two policies, one \$10,000 Government bond with no restrictions, but the \$2,000 one has a restriction for my payment for suicide until one year has elapsed.

"As soon as it's over, Sam, please hand the policy over to some insurance company which will be able to handle it. Please do not go to any unnecessary expense, as I do not deserve it. I have tried to figure if I was able to sell everything and pay Mrs. Thomas some-

thing on account whether she would give me a chance for the sake of my wife and baby, but I am sure there would be no use. I am afraid to take the chance of a jail sentence.

"Helen knows nothing about it. The last few weeks have been a terrible time for her, as she tried so hard to have me open up to her, but I did not have the courage. I told her I was going to Boston and would return by Friday. God knows where I am going, but you will very soon know where I am. By all means do not tell mother the real reason for my act, as she will kill her. There is \$408, deducting everything, in the bank now.

"Helen is flat broke. Isn't that a hell of a way to leave this world? If I don't get through with it soon I will simply go insane. God knows how I love my wife and baby and it is for their sake that I cannot face the disgrace. Consult Alex, God knows how I love you as to how to protect yourself. I am to meet Mrs. Thomas at 1 o'clock at the Baltimore and hand her anything you can. You can figure it out with Alex. I should have told you sooner, but I wanted to live a little while longer. Life is so wonderful if you have some one who cares for you and when you love like I do my wife and baby."

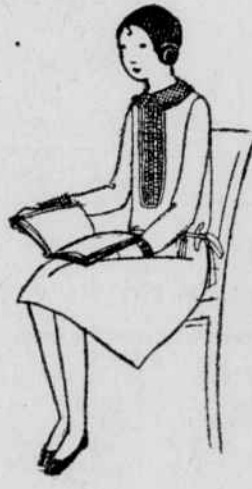
Gorton F. Morgan, son of Mrs. Thomas by a former marriage, and who lives at 128 East Fifty-first street, said Judge and Mrs. Thomas were away and he was not acquainted with the alleged fraud. At Norwich, Conn., the home of Judge and Mrs. Thomas, it was said they were in Massachusetts. Mrs. Fieldsteel left her apartment at 929 Riverside Drive in the afternoon and had not returned late last night.

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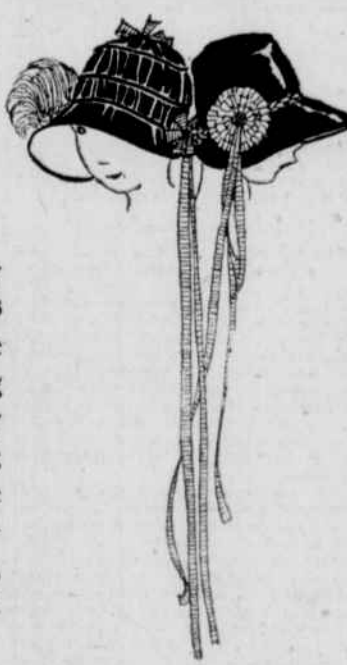
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